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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/066,731	02/06/2002	Chan Yong Park	P67579US0	4083

7590

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EXAMINER

ARMSTRONG, ANGELA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2654

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/066,731

Applicant(s)

PARK ET AL.

Examiner

Angela A. Armstrong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

1. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cline et al (US Patent No. 5,696,879) in view of Tomikawa (US Patent No. 4,760,572).

Cline discloses a method and apparatus for improved voice transmission.

2. Regarding claim 1, Cline discloses a user-to-user communication system via a network comprising: transmission means (290) for recognizing a first audio signal (202) which is inputted from a user (206), converting the first audio signal into a first text data (col. 2, lines 61-64), and transmitting the converted first text data, applied with a transmission code, into a counterpart terminal via the network (col. 2, line 55 to col. 3, line 9); and receiving means for receiving a data applied with a transmission code from the counterpart terminal (col. 3, line 3 to col. 6, line 9) and converting the data into a second audio signal (252) to output the same via a speaker (260). Cline does not specifically disclose the transmission code identifies the converted text data as being text data instead of an audio signal. However, providing a means of text identification/notification when transmitting text was well known in the art. Tomikawa discloses a limited multicast communication network system, which provides for the transmission of text and other data and specifically provides for the identification of text frames and other data frames during the transmission process (col. 4, lines 20-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to modify the system of Cline to

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provide a data notification scheme, as suggested by Tomikawa, for the purpose of ensuring the system is ensuring the receiver is able to adequately process the transmitted data.

Regarding claim 2, Cline discloses an audio recognition block for recognizing the first audio signal inputted from the user (202); a text converter block for converting the first audio signal recognized in the audio recognition block into the first text data (202; col. 2, line 67 to col. 3, line 2); a data synthesizer block for synthesizing the converted first text data with a text transmission code (col. 3, lines 6-9); and a data transmission block for transmitting the first text data having the text transmission code synthesized thereto into the counterpart terminal via the network (col. 3, lines 54-55).

Regarding claims 4 and 7, Cline discloses a data-receiving block for receiving the data including the transmission code from the counterpart terminal (250,254); data separating means for judging the kind of the received data based upon the transmission code included therein to separate a second text data (col. 3, lines 56-63); and an audio signal converting block for converting the second text data, which is separated from the data separating means, into the second audio signal to output the same (col. 3, line 54 to col. 4, line 18).

Regarding claims 6 and 10, Cline discloses the network is a wire or wireless network (34).

3. Claims 3, 5, 8-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cline in view of Tomikawa and further in view of Towell (US 5,911,129).

4. Regarding claims 3, 5, 8-9 and 11, Cline does not teach compressing and transmitting an audio signal in the voice transmission system. Towell teaches transmitting encoded audio for

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playback to a different user. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to modify the system of Cline to allow for the transmission of audio signals, to allow for communication for a user to whom the system has difficulty recognizing (heavy accent, etc.)

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela A. Armstrong whose telephone number is 571-272-7598. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 11:30-8:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on 571-272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Angela A Armstrong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2654

AAA
January 9, 2006

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Armstrong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name and title.